

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 048441

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, CSCE, MOPS, UR, US

SUBJECT: SOVIET PROTEST ABOUT USAF MOCK SOVIET TRAINING
UNITS

REF: STATE 046711

1. PER REFTEL FOLLOWING IS COMPLETE TEXT OF SOVIET NOTE
OF FEB 22 ON SUBJECT PROTEST:
2. QUOTE THE EMBASSY OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS DEEMS IT NECESSARY TO DRAW THE ATTENTION OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE OF THE USA TO THE FOLLOWING:
3. "ACCORDING TO AMERICAN PRESS REPORTS, IN PARTICULAR THE
WEEKLY NEWS MAGAZINE 'PARADE', AIRPLANES WITH SOVIET WING
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MARKINGS ARE BEING USED BY US ARMED FORCES DURING SPECIAL
TRAINING OF MILITARY PILOTS FOR BATTLE OPERATIONS. IN
ADDITION, USSR NATIONAL FLAGS HANG AT THE HEADQUARTERS OF
THE SUBDIVISIONS WHICH ARE SIMULATING SOVIET AVIATION OPERA-
TIONS, AND THE PILOTS WEAR PATCHES WITH THE RED STAR EMBLEM
AND THE PROVOCATIVE INSCRIPTION 'AGGRESSOR.'" THE KNOWLEDGE
DISPLAYED BY THE AUTHORS OF THE REPORTS MENTIONED ABOVE

CLEARLY INDICATES THAT THEIR INFORMATION CAME FROM OFFICIAL SOURCES.

4. "SUCH USE OF THE USSR NATIONAL FLAG AND SOVIET AIR FORCE WING MARKINGS BY US ARMED FORCES CONTRADICTS THE GENERALLY ACCEPTED PRACTICE OF A STATE WHICH MAINTAINS NORMAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ANOTHER STATE. SUCH ACTIONS CAN ONLY BE CONSIDERED AS DIRECTED AT INCITING HOSTILE FEELINGS IN THE US TOWARDS THE SOVIET UNION, WHICH GOES DIRECTLY AGAINST THE SPIRIT OF DETENTE AND IS INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE TASK OF IMPROVING RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES, ON BEHALF OF WHICH THE US SIDE HAS REPEATEDLY SPOKEN OUT.

5. "THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO REGISTER ITS STRONG PROTEST AGAINST THE USE OF THE USSR NATIONAL FLAG AND SOVIET AIR FORCE WING MARKINGS BY US ARMED FORCES FOR PROVOCATIVE PURPOSES. THE SOVIET SIDE EXPECTS THAT SUCH UNFRIENDLY ACTIONS TOWARDS THE SOVIET UNION WILL BE DISCONTINUED. UNQUOTE VANCE

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